

## HOUSE RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_

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Introduced by: Herrell

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A HOUSE RESOLUTION supporting the Governor and Lieutenant Governor's request to the Indiana State Veterinarian to review the status of animal health emergency management in Indiana.

Whereas, Agriculture in Indiana is a large and diverse industry that includes 65,000 farms containing 15.5 million acres of farmland;

Whereas, Agriculture in Indiana plays a vital role in the economic stability of the state, with cash receipts from the sale of all commodities topping \$4.4 billion annually;

Whereas, Livestock and poultry production is an important component to Indiana's economy accounting for \$2.1 billion in cash receipts, or forty-eight percent of the sale of all farm commodities;

Whereas, Indiana consistently ranks among the top states nationally for livestock, dairy, and poultry production;



Whereas, Livestock production in Indiana provides a substantial market for grain and forage crops grown in Indiana;

Whereas, Wildlife resources of Indiana play an important role in the lives of the citizens of the state and in the Indiana economy;

Whereas, Outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease and bovine spongiform encephalopathy in Europe have raised concerns about animal diseases and their potential effect on the Hoosier state;

Whereas, The Indiana State Board of Animal Health is charged with the prevention suppression, control and eradication of infectious, contagious and communicable diseases affecting the health of animals within the state and the State Veterinarian is its chief administrative officer;

Whereas, The Governor and Lieutenant Governor have asked the State Veterinarian to review the status of animal health emergency management in Indiana;

Whereas, The Indiana General Assembly is responsible for providing the statutory guidelines to ensure a healthy animal agriculture industry and a safe and nutritious food supply for Hoosier citizens; Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the  
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. That the State Veterinarian evaluate the animal health emergency preparation in the state.

SECTION 2. That the State Veterinarian advise the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Indiana General Assembly, state offices and state agencies on the status and preparedness of the State of Indiana to monitor and address animal health issues.

SECTION 3. That the State Veterinarian consult with other state offices and state and federal agencies that may be necessary to fully address animal health emergency issues in Indiana, including: Office of



the Commissioner of Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture, Purdue University School of Agriculture, Purdue University School of Veterinary Medicine, Purdue University Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service, Office the Indiana State Chemist, Indiana State Emergency Management Agency, Indiana State Department of Environmental Management, Indiana State Department of Natural Resources, and the Indiana State Department of Health.

